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Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Letter dated 5 April 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Honduras to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I have the pleasure to write to you in connection with our letter No. MH/788/98 of 5 January 1999, in which we requested an exemption under Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations to avoid losing our vote in the General Assembly.

Our primary justification was that hurricane Mitch had had devastating effects on Honduras at the end of 1998. Our request was referred to the Committee on Contributions under agenda item 118, "Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations".

In both our letter to you and our representations before the Committee on Contributions, we indicated that Honduras would make the necessary efforts to bring its payments to the United Nations up to date. On today's date, we made the necessary payments to the Secretariat, and we therefore request that the name of our country be deleted from the decision to be submitted to the General Assembly by the Fifth Committee (see document A/53/464/Add.4) under agenda item 118.

I take this opportunity to express my appreciation of the support which you and most of the members of the Committee on Contributions showed for our application. However, we wish to express our disagreement with the comments made by one member of the Committee on Contributions concerning our country, which appear in the addendum to the Committee's report (A/53/11/Add.1 and Corr.1). We reject such comments as superficial and inaccurate, insofar as they denote a lack of awareness not only of the current situation in Honduras, but also of the sacrifices which our authorities have made in order to keep their payments to the United Nations up to date.

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I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 118.

(*Signed*) Hugo **Noé Pino**
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative